

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Accrued Expenditure (accrual) = an accounting term for the procedure to recognize a cost, expenditure, or receivable at the time goods and services are received or furnished regardless of when actual payment is made or collection received.

Allocation (cost allocation) = In the Bureau of Reclamation this term is most frequently associated with the assignment or allocation of costs between the various reimbursable and nonreimbursable functions of a project or activity. Some agencies and individuals also use the term interchangeable with cost distribution, and/or assessment.

Obligation(s) = An accounting transaction supported by a source document officially reserving funds for a stated purpose. The term "obligations" also refers to the combined total of expenditures plus outstanding obligations of a particular fund or activity.

Expenditures = An intermediate accounting transaction that recognizes a charge against funds at the time of receipt of goods or services regardless of when payment is made. Not be confused with the term "Disbursements."